



AF/EFW

PATENT
Old Attorney Docket No. 54442-20003.00
New Attorney Docket No. 144517.00300

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

James D. THACKER

Examiner: Ja-Na A. Hines

U.S. Application No.: 10/053,871

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: January 24, 2002

Title: **RAPID METHOD FOR MICROBIAL TYPING AND ENUMERATION**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant submits herewith copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A/B for consideration and to be made of record herein by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-captioned application.

The attached documents were cited in an European Search Report, mail dated December 28, 2004, of the corresponding European Application No. 02763184.5, a copy of which is enclosed.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not

exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

Consideration of the foregoing plus the prompt return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A/B with the Examiner's initials in the left column in accordance with MPEP 609 are respectfully requested.


This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of the date of the corresponding European Search Report. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is required for consideration of this information. However, in the event any fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1682.

Respectfully submitted,

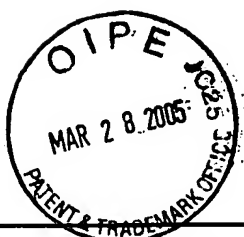
POWELL GOLDSTEIN LLP

Dated: March 28, 2005

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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/053,871
				Filing Date	January 24, 2002
				First Named Inventor	James D. THACKER
				Art Unit	1645
				Examiner Name	Ja-Na A. Hines
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	144517.00300

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	6,004,766	12/21/1999	Atrache et al	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	2.	EP 0 429 794 A2	06/05/1991	Vicam, L.P.		
	3.	EP 0 498 920 A2	08/19/1992	Vicam, L.P.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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